convicted on the date of filing the nominations?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) Certain proposals for strengthening Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, including a proposal for disqualifying a person from the date the competent court frames charges against him in certain offences, would be discussed with political parties and Government would consider giving effect to such proposals on which consensus emerges amongst political parties.

Frequent Shifting of the Department of Company Affairs

1031. SHRI S. PETER ALPHONSE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Company Affairs/Company Law Board recently attached to Law Ministry is functioning efficiently;

(b) how many times these Departments were shifted and attached to different main Ministries; and

(c) whether Administrative Reforms Commission has thought of this matter at any stage and steps taken to stop this type of shifting the Departments at regular intervals?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M.THAMBI DURAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Department of Company Affairs/ Company Law Board functioned under different main Ministries since 1955. These changes occurred ten times.

(c) In 1968, Administrative Reforms Commission recommended that the Company Law Administration should be placed back in the Ministry of Finance. This recommendation of Administrative Reforms Commission was not accepted by the Government on the ground that no hard and fast rule could be laid down in this regard.

The rules for allocation of business of the Government are made by the President in terms of the powers conferred by clause 3 of the Article 17 of the Constitution of India for proper transaction of the business of the Government. The business of the Government is transacted in various Ministries and Departments as per the allocation of the business specified in the Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. The decision if the Department should be independent or attached to Ministry is based on administrative convenience at a given point of time. This is a continuous exercise and the structure of Ministries/ Departments of the Government of India is in constant flux and evolving.

Electoral Reforms proposed by Law Commission

1032. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has proposed far reaching electoral reforms and recommended to put a ban on splits and mergers of political parties during the term of Lok Sabha or Legislative Assembly;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring any further changes in the electoral reforms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) to (c) The Law Commission has not yet made any recommendation on electoral reforms to the Government. The Commission, however, has circulated a working paper